

Rare Plants of Louisiana



Agalinis filicaulis - purple false-foxglove Figwort Family (Scrophulariaceae)

Rarity Rank: S2/G3G4

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------|-----------|---|------|---|--------|
| State | | | | | |
| Global | | | | | |
| | imperiled | | rare | | secure |

Range: AL, FL, LA, MS



Photo by John Hays

Recognition:

- Short annual, 10 to 50 cm tall, with stems finely wiry, spindly
- Stems simple to few-branched
- Leaves opposite, scale-like, about 1mm long, barely perceptible to the unaided eye
- Flowers few in number, mostly born singly or in pairs from the highest node of a branchlet
- Pedicels filiform, 5 to 10 mm long, subtending bracts minute
- Calyx 2 mm long, lobes short-deltoid, with broad shallow sinuses between lobes
- Corolla lavender-pink, without lines or spots within, 10 to 13 mm long, exterior glabrous
- Capsule globe-like, nearly half exerted from calyx

Flowering Time: September to November

Light Requirement: Full sun to partial shade

Wetland Indicator Status:

FAC – similar likelihood of occurring in both wetlands and non-wetlands

Habitat:

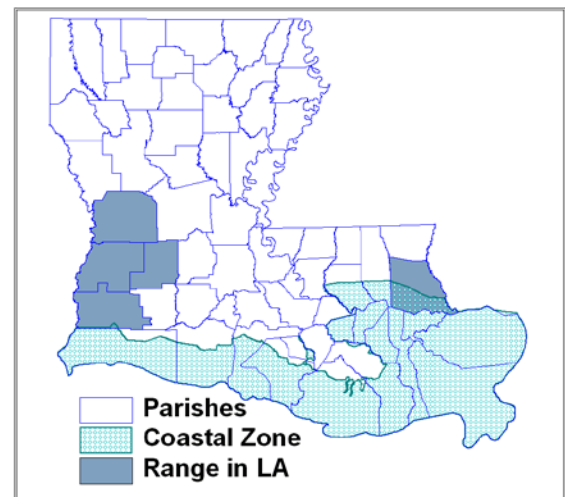
Wet longleaf pine flatwoods savannahs and hillside seepage bogs.

Threats:

- Conversion of habitat to pine plantations (bedding, dense tree spacing, etc.)
- Residential and commercial development
- Fire exclusion, allowing invasion of habitat by woody species
- Hydrologic alteration directly (e.g. ditching) and indirectly (fire suppression allowing higher tree density and more large-diameter trees)

Beneficial Management Practices:

- Thinning (during very dry periods), targeting off-site species such as loblolly and slash pines for removal
- Prescribed burning, establishing a regime consisting of mostly growing season (May-June) burns



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LA River Basins: Pearl, Pontchartrain, Mermentau, Calcasieu, Sabine



Side view of flower.
Photo by John Hays

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- Vincent, K. A. 1982. Scrophulariaceae of Louisiana. M.S. Thesis. University of Southwestern Louisiana. Lafayette, LA.